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MSA NECROLOGY (1984-85)

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†REV. LAWRENCE W. MONHEIM, S.M.

As we were preparing this issue of *Marian Studies* for publication, Father Lawrence W. Monheim, S.M., died on September 14, 1985, at the UD Marianist Assisted Living Center, after a lengthy battle with cancer. He was eighty years old; on October 2, 1985, he would have celebrated his 62nd anniversary as a Marianist and on March 8, 1986, the 50th anniversary of his priesthood.

Father Monheim was a charter member of the Mariological Society of America, and he presented a paper ("Some Marian Collections in the World") at the Society's First National Convention in 1950. A large part of this lecture was devoted to the purposes and activities of the Marian Library at the University of Dayton (Ohio) which he had founded in 1943. This library has, of course, developed into what is today the world's largest Marian Library (over 65,000 volumes, in over 50 languages; over 48,000 clippings; numerous examples of Marian art; records, tapes, etc.). Its International Marian Research Institute is affiliated with the Marianum in Rome to confer the pontifical S.T.L. or S.T.D. degrees with specialization in Marian Studies.

Father Monheim was honored with the Mariological Award for 1953 at the 1954 MSA Convention. His entire life was lived according to the dictum of the 1937 S.M. Constitutions which appeared on his funeral card: *The professed of the Society prefers to any other happiness that of being called and of being in reality the child of Mary.*